

3738



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08386.0004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

L. Parks
1-30-03
#75uph
IDS

In re Application of:)
)
Dennis W. WAHR et al.) Group Art Unit: 3738
)
Application No.: 09/870,813) Examiner: Unknown
)
Filed: June 1, 2001)
)
For: CLOSURE DEVICES, RELATED)
DELIVERY METHODS AND)
TOOLS, AND RELATED)
METHODS OF USE)

RECEIVED
JAN 27 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. To the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

An English language version of a search report from the European Patent Office in the corresponding PCT application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof is enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

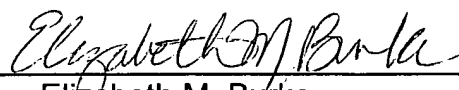
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 21, 2003

By: 
Elizabeth M. Burke
Reg. No. 38,758

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com